

Chalan Pago/Ordot Mayor Rossana San Miguel, who has the distinction of being named Outstanding Woman of the Year by the Soroptomist International of the Marianas, remains an advocate for the rights of women, children and families, and for an improved quality of life for the people of Ordot and Chalan Pago. She was an active community member long before her election as Mayor in 1995. A product of Guam's public schools and the University of Guam, Mayor San Miguel is the daughter of Juan Atoigue and Esperanza Diwa San Miguel, and the loving mother of Esperanza, Michelle and Samantha. Mayor San Miguel's terms in office resulted in the paving, resurfacing and naming of numerous streets in the villages of Chalan Pago and Ordot. Her effort and leadership made the streets of Chalan Pago and Ordot safer by having numerous power poles and street lights installed, as well as the construction of bus shelters for the children of her village.

With a population of more than 40,000, the Municipality of Dededo is Guam's largest village. It might well qualify as a city rather than a village. The Honorable Jose Aguilo Rivera has served the people of Dededo for 16 years after having served as a federal civil servant from 1947 until his retirement as Assistant Fire Chief in 1981. First elected as Assistant Village Commissioner in 1984 and then as Mayor in 1989. During his tenure, the village of Dededo grew steadily and prospered. Mayor Rivera worked hard and lobbied hard for the infrastructure and capitol improvements necessary to keep up with the rapid growth and development of his village. Of the eight children born to the late Jose Ulloa Rivera and the late Carmen Aguilo Rivera, Mayor Rivera was an only son. He and his wife, the former June Santos Shimizu, are the proud parents of five children, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

INDIA OBSERVES CEASE-FIRE IN KASHMIR

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2000

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, on November 19th, the Government of India announced a one-month unilateral cease-fire in Kashmir. India's Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, ordered all Indian security forces to cease operations in Kashmir during the month of Ramadan, the Muslim period of fasting and prayer. An article in the New York Times on November 20th described India's action as "a rare, hopeful step toward ending more than a decade of violence in Kashmir." Prime Minister Vajpayee stated, "I hope that our gesture will be fully appreciated and all violence and infiltration across the Line of Control and the international border will cease and peace prevail."

Regrettably, India's courageous step for peace was immediately rejected by the four major Muslim guerrilla groups that have been battling since 1989 to forcibly tear the state of Jammu and Kashmir away from India.

Still, despite the snubs from the militant leaders, India is making good on its cease-

fire offer. Since the beginning of Ramadan at sundown on Sunday, November 26, Indian security forces have been under orders to conduct no operations against the guerrilla groups, and to react with force only if they are attacked.

Unfortunately, it didn't take long for an attack to come. According to an account in the November 28 edition of The Washington Post, militants used a land mine to blow up an Indian army truck, killing three soldiers. There was additional violence as guerrillas tried to infiltrate into India's territory, across the Line of Control from Pakistani-held areas. These border incursions are clearly an attempt by the militants to provide a response from India, thereby undermining the cease-fire. India has a right to defend its territory, and these defensive actions are consistent with the cease-fire.

There are indications that the Kashmiri people welcome the cease-fire, despite the threats from the militants. According to a November 27 article in The Washington Post, entitled "Kashmiris Hopeful as Truce Begins":

"The cease-fire is a good thing for us, but unfortunately the militants do not agree," said Nazir Ahmed, 30, a mason in the village of Wathura, which was reduced to rubble early this month during a clash between rebels and security forces. "I'm afraid there will be more killings, because one side wants to prove a point."

In addition, there have been warning signs that some rebel groups have no intention of honoring the truce, which Vajpayee announced Nov. 19. Since then, there have been two attacks on civilians, including the killing of five Sikh and Hindu truck drivers on a Kashmiri highway.

There has been speculation that the attacks were intended to drive a wedge between Muslims and people of other faiths in Kashmir at an especially sensitive moment, thus undermining the cease-fire.

Such attacks must be condemned, in the name of human rights and fundamental decency. As to the broader issue of India's brave action, I urge the U.S. Government to express in the strongest terms our strong support for the difficult step for peace that India has taken.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JULIAN C. DIXON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable JULIAN C. DIXON. JULIAN was a steady force in the Congress for more than twenty years.

Before entering the House in 1979, JULIAN served six years in the California State Assembly. While there, he won the favor of his colleagues and was Chairman of the Assembly Democratic Caucus.

I became aware of JULIAN through his efforts to secure federal funds for the people of California. For example, he was instrumental in federal efforts to mitigate the impact of the 1992 civil disturbance by introducing a dire emergency supplemental appropriations bill to help businesses and families hurt by the riots. Seeking to better serve his constituents, JULIAN served four two-year terms on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Of particular interest to his constituents, JULIAN focused attention on the CIA-crack cocaine connection. He was the highest ranking Democrat.

While a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, JULIAN advocated programs important to the defense/aerospace industrial base in California. In addition, he secured years of funding for educational programs, including a mathematics and technology enrichment program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in saluting a great American, a great Congressman and a great human being—JULIAN C. DIXON.

THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR HEARING HEALTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I support the National Campaign for Hearing Health. The campaign was launched a year and a half ago by the Deafness Research Foundation to put hearing health on the national agenda. With 28 million Americans suffering from hearing loss—from newborns to senior citizens—they are committed to promoting research, prevention, detection and intervention that will ensure that every American has the potential to lead a hearing life.

Working with the campaign, I am pleased to announce the recent formation of the first-ever Congressional Hearing Health Caucus. The caucus is a bipartisan group of congressional Members committed to the study and support of hearing health issues. Caucus co-chairs include myself, Representatives JIM WALSH, CAROLYN MCCARTHY, and JIM RYUN, who knows first-hand the impact of hearing loss. We are greatly interested in these vital issues that affect so many Americans' health and well-being.

While the increase in the availability of newborn hearing tests represents tremendous progress—we all realize that screening is just the first step. We must begin to look to the future and prepare for the time when 100 percent of newborns are screened at birth. We must ensure that, once a baby's hearing loss is detected, all parents have access to the appropriate interventions—be they digital hearing aids or cochlear implants—regardless of their economic status.

Block grant funding provided to the states through last spring's Walsh bill—also known as the "Newborn Infant Hearing Screening and Intervention Act" is also expected to be a catalyst to advance newborn screening and intervention programs through the states. But it too is only a beginning.